COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

AT RICHMOND, DECEMBER 21, 2021, COTHOL ERK'S CEFFICE

2021 05C 21 P 3: 22

APPLICATION OF

VIRGINIA-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY

CASE NO. PUR-2021-00255

For a general increase in rates

ORDER FOR NOTICE AND HEARING

On November 15, 2021, Virginia-American Water Company ("Virginia-American" or "Company") filed with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") an application for a general increase in rates, together with testimonies and exhibits, and certain schedules filed under seal pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-170 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure ("Rules of Practice") ("Application"). The Company filed its Application pursuant to Chapter 10 of Title 56 of the Code of Virginia ("Code") and the Commission's Rules Governing Utility Rate Applications and Annual Informational Filings. Virginia-American also filed a Motion for Protective Ruling in accordance with 5 VAC 5-20-170 of the Commission's Rules of Practice.

The Company requests authority to increase its rates to produce additional annual jurisdictional sales revenues of \$14,317,277, or a 27.60% increase over present pro forma revenues.⁵ Virginia-American states that this increase includes an annual water service rate

¹ 5 VAC 5-20-10 et seq.

² The Application was complete on December 9, 2021.

³ Code § 56-232 et seq.

⁴ 20 VAC 5-201-10 et seq.

⁵ Application at 2.

increase of \$11,565,880, or 27.35%, and a wastewater service rate increase of \$2,751,397, or 28.71%.⁶ The Company indicates that this rate request is based on a 10.9% proposed return on equity.⁷

Virginia-American asserts that, consistent with the requirements of Code § 56-235.11 and the partial stipulation in Case No. PUR-2018-00175, the Company is proposing consolidated tariff pricing in its Application for its water service rates to make the second step toward a consolidated statewide single tariff pricing ("STP") tariff. Virginia-American states that its proposed rate plan would transition the Company to a consolidated rate structure through a reasonable, gradual and consistent methodology in compliance with the requirements of § 56-235.11 of the Code. 10

The Company is not proposing any changes to its monthly meter charges in the Alexandria, Hopewell, or Prince William districts, and is not proposing any changes to the monthly fixed charges for wastewater service. The Company is proposing to reduce the 5/8" and 3/4" meter charge in the Eastern district down to \$30.00 consistent with the Company's proposed second step in the STP process.¹¹ The Company proposes changes to its volumetric rates.¹²

⁶ *Id*.

⁷ *Id*.

⁸ See Application of Virginia-American Water Company, For a general increase in rates, Case No. PUR-2018-00175, Doc. Con. Cen. No. 200640010, Joint Motion to Approve Stipulation (June 18, 2020). The partial stipulation, as modified by the Supplemental Report of Alexander F. Skirpan, Jr., Chief Hearing Examiner, and by the Commission, was approved. See Application of Virginia-American Water Company, For a general increase in rates, Case No. PUR-2018-00175, 2020 S.C.C. Ann. Rept. 236, Final Order (Nov. 6, 2020).

⁹ Application at 3-4.

¹⁰ Id. at 4.

¹¹ Direct Testimony of Charles B. Rea at 58.

¹² Id. at 58-59.

Bill impacts will vary depending on district, class, and usage.¹³ For a residential customer using 4,000 gallons per month, current and proposed bills by district, with the percentage increase, for base rates are:¹⁴

District	Current Bill	Proposed Bill	\$ Increase	% Increase
Alexandria	\$21.97	\$29.79	\$7.83	35.64%
Hopewell	\$29.63	\$35.35	\$5.73	19.34%
Eastern	\$63.30	\$64.63	\$1.33	2.10%
Pr. William Water	\$25.53	\$31.46	\$5.93	23.23%
Pr. William Wastewater	\$29.09	\$35.07	\$5.98	20.56%
Pr. William Wastewater Unmetered	\$31.00	\$39.00	\$8.00	25.81%

Because Virginia-American is not proposing any increase to the fixed charge component of the bill, the Company states there will be zero rate impact for customers using water at or below 2,000 gallons per month.¹⁵ The Company also provides information on the estimated rate and bill impacts for commercial and industrial customers.¹⁶

Virginia-American seeks approval of a Revenue Stability Mechanism ("RSM"), which is an automatic rate adjustment clause that would decouple Virginia-American's recovery of fixed costs from volumetric sales.¹⁷ The Company asserts that the RSM is designed to align the Company's revenues with the level the Commission uses to set rates in this case going forward

¹³ Id. at 58-61.

¹⁴ *Id.* at 60 and Exhibit CBR-4 for all dollar amounts. The percentage increases provided are calculations of the Commission's Staff ("Staff") based upon the representations in the Application.

¹⁵ Id. at 61.

¹⁶ See, e.g., id. at 58-61.

¹⁷ Application at 5.

and that it would address the unpredictable changes in volume of water sold due to factors beyond the Company's control.¹⁸

Additionally, the Company proposes an automatic rate adjustment clause to reconcile actual incurred uncollectible expense to the base level established in this case, with any variance recovered from, or credited to, customers over a subsequent period.¹⁹ Virginia-American asserts that this will protect both customers and the Company from expected fluctuations and uncertainty with regard to its uncollectibles expense.²⁰

Finally, in conjunction with the filing of its Application on November 15, 2021, the Company filed a Motion for Protective Ruling and a proposed protective ruling that establishes procedures governing the use of confidential information in this proceeding.

NOW THE COMMISSION, upon consideration of this matter, is of the opinion and finds that this matter should be docketed; Virginia-American should provide public notice of its Application; public hearings should be scheduled for the purpose of receiving testimony and evidence on the Application; interested persons should have an opportunity to file comments on the Application and participate as a respondent in this proceeding; and the Staff should be directed to investigate the Application and file testimony and exhibits containing its findings and recommendations thereon. We also find that a Hearing Examiner should be assigned to conduct all further proceedings in this matter on behalf of the Commission, including ruling on the Company's Motion for Protective Ruling and filing a final report containing the Hearing Examiner's findings and recommendations.

¹⁸ Id.

¹⁹ Id. at 6.

²⁰ Id.

The Commission takes judicial notice of the ongoing public health issues related to the spread of the coronavirus, or COVID-19. The Commission has taken certain actions, and may take additional actions going forward, which could impact the procedures in this proceeding.²¹ Consistent with these actions, in regard to the terms of the procedural framework established below, the Commission will, among other things, direct the electronic filing of testimony and pleadings unless they contain confidential information, and require electronic service on parties to this proceeding.

We note that the Application, if approved, would result in an increase to customer bills. We realize that the ongoing COVID-19 public health issues have caused devastating economic effects that impact utility customers. We have responded to this economic emergency by, among other actions, directing Virginia utilities to offer extended payment plans, without late fees for those who are current on such plans, to protect customers from service disconnection. We are sensitive to the effects of rate increases, especially in times such as these. The Commission, however, must and will follow the laws applicable to this case, as well as the findings of fact supported by evidence in the record.

Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

(1) This matter hereby is docketed and assigned Case No. PUR-2021-00255.

²¹ See, e.g., Commonwealth of Virginia, ex rel. State Corporation Commission, Ex Parte: Electronic Service of Commission Orders, Case No. CLK-2020-00004, 2020 S.C.C. Ann. Rept. 76, Order Concerning Electronic Service of Commission Orders (Mar. 19, 2020), extended by 2020 S.C.C. Ann. Rept. 77, Order Regarding the State Corporation Commission's Revised Operating Procedures During COVID-19 Emergency (May 11, 2020); Commonwealth of Virginia, ex rel., State Corporation Commission, Ex Parte: Revised Operating Procedures During COVID-19 Emergency, Case No. CLK-2020-00005, 2020 S.C.C. Ann. Rept. 77, Order Regarding the State Corporation Commission's Revised Operating Procedures During COVID-19 Emergency (Mar. 19, 2020) ("Revised Operating Procedures Order"), extended by 2020 S.C.C. Ann. Rept. 78, Order Regarding the State Corporation Commission's Revised Operating Procedures During COVID-19 Emergency (May 11, 2020); Commonwealth of Virginia, ex rel. State Corporation Commission, Ex Parte: Electronic service among parties during COVID-19 emergency, Case No. CLK-2020-00007, 2020 S.C.C. Ann. Rept. 79, Order Requiring Electronic Service (Apr. 1, 2020).

- (2) All pleadings in this matter should be submitted electronically to the extent authorized by Rule 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*, of the Rules of Practice. Confidential and Extraordinarily Sensitive Information shall not be submitted electronically and should comply with 5 VAC 5-20-170, *Confidential information*, of the Rules of Practice. Any person seeking to hand deliver and physically file or submit any pleading or other document shall contact the Clerk's Office Document Control Center at (804) 371-9838 to arrange the delivery.²²
- (3) Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-140, *Filing and service*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice, the Commission directs that service on parties and the Staff in this matter shall be accomplished by electronic means. Concerning Confidential or Extraordinarily Sensitive Information, parties and the Staff are instructed to work together to agree upon the manner in which documents containing such information shall be served upon one another, to the extent practicable, in an electronically protected manner, even if such information is unable to be filed in the Office of the Clerk, so that no party or the Staff is impeded from preparing its case.
- (4) As provided by Code § 12.1-31 and Rule 5 VAC 5-20-120, *Procedure before hearing examiners*, of the Rules of Practice, a Hearing Examiner is appointed to conduct all further proceedings in this matter on behalf of the Commission, including ruling on the Company's Motion for Protective Ruling.
- (5) The Commission hereby schedules a telephonic hearing for the receipt of testimony from public witnesses on the Application, as follows:
 - (a) A hearing for the receipt of testimony from public witnesses on the Application shall be convened telephonically at 10 a.m., on September 23, 2022, with no public witness present in the Commission's courtroom.²³

²² As noted in the Revised Operating Procedures Order, submissions to the Commission's Clerk's Office via U.S. mail or commercial mail equivalents may be subject to delayed processing due to the COVID-19 public health issues.

²³ The Commission will convene counsel of record in this proceeding to attend the public witness hearing virtually.

- (b) To promote fairness for all public witnesses, each witness will be allotted five minutes to provide testimony.
- (c) On or before September 19, 2022, any person desiring to offer testimony as a public witness shall provide to the Commission (a) your name, and (b) the telephone number that you wish the Commission to call during the hearing to receive your testimony. This information may be provided to the Commission in three ways: (i) by filling out a form on the Commission's website at scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting; (ii) by completing and emailing the PDF version of this form to SCCInfo@scc.virginia.gov; or (iii) by calling (804) 371-9141.
- (d) Beginning at 10 a.m., on September 23, 2022, the Commission will telephone sequentially each person who has signed up to testify as provided above. This hearing will not be convened, and the parties will be notified of such, if no person signs up to testify as a public witness.
- (e) This public witness hearing will be webcast at scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting.
- (6) On September 27, 2022, at 10 a.m., either in the Commission's second floor courtroom located in the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, or by electronic means, a hearing will be convened to receive testimony and evidence from the Company, any respondents, and the Commission's Staff. Further details on this hearing will be provided by subsequent Commission Order or Hearing Examiner's Ruling.
- (7) An electronic copy of the Company's Application may be obtained by submitting a written request to counsel for the Company, Timothy E. Biller, Esquire, Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP, 951 East Byrd Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, or tbiller@hunton.com. Interested persons also may download unofficial copies from the Commission's website: scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information.
- (8) On or before February 25, 2022, the Company shall cause the following notice to be published as display advertising (not classified) on one (1) occasion in newspapers of general circulation throughout the Company's service territory within Virginia:

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF AN APPLICATION BY VIRGINIA-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY, FOR A GENERAL INCREASE IN RATES CASE NO. PUR-2021-00255

- Virginia-American Water Company ("Virginia-American") has applied for authority for a general increase in rates.
- Virginia-American requests an increase to its total revenue requirement of \$14,317,277.
- A Hearing Examiner appointed by the Commission will hold a telephonic hearing in this case on September 23, 2022, at 10 a.m., for the receipt of public witness testimony.
- An evidentiary hearing will be held on September 27, 2022, at 10 a.m., either in the Commission's second floor courtroom located in the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, or by electronic means. Further details on this hearing will be provided by subsequent Commission Order or Hearing Examiner's Ruling.
- Further information about this case is available on the State Corporation Commission's website at: http://www.scc.virginia.gov/case.

On November 15, 2021, Virginia-American Water Company ("Virginia-American" or "Company") filed with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") an application for a general increase in rates, together with testimonies and exhibits, and certain schedules filed under seal pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-170 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure ("Rules of Practice") ("Application"). The Company filed its Application pursuant to Chapter 10 of Title 56 of the Code of Virginia ("Code") and the Commission's Rules Governing Utility Rate Applications and Annual Informational Filings. Virginia-American also filed a Motion for Protective Ruling in accordance with 5 VAC 5-20-170 of the Commission's Rules of Practice.

The Company requests authority to increase its rates to produce additional annual jurisdictional sales revenues of \$14,317,277, or a 27.60% increase over present pro forma revenues. Virginia-American states that this increase includes an annual water service rate increase of \$11,565,880, or 27.35%, and a wastewater service rate increase of \$2,751,397, or 28.71%. The

Company indicates that this rate request is based on a 10.9% proposed return on equity.

Virginia-American asserts that, consistent with the requirements of Code § 56-235.11 and the partial stipulation in Case No. PUR-2018-00175, the Company is proposing consolidated tariff pricing in its Application for its water service rates to make the second step toward a consolidated statewide single tariff pricing ("STP") tariff. Virginia-American states that its proposed rate plan would transition the Company to a consolidated rate structure through a reasonable, gradual and consistent methodology in compliance with the requirements of § 56-235.11 of the Code.

The Company is not proposing any changes to its monthly meter charges in the Alexandria, Hopewell, or Prince William districts, and is not proposing any changes to the monthly fixed charges for wastewater service. The Company is proposing to reduce the 5/8" and 3/4" meter charge in the Eastern district down to \$30.00 consistent with the Company's proposed second step in the STP process.

The Company proposes changes to its volumetric rates. Bill impacts will vary depending on district, class, and usage. For a residential customer using 4,000 gallons per month, current and proposed bills by district for base rates are:

District	Current Bill	Proposed Bill	<u>Increase</u>
Alexandria	\$21.97	\$29.79	\$7.83
Hopewell	\$29.63	\$35.35	\$5.73
Eastern	\$63.30	\$64.63	\$1.33
Pr. William Water	\$25.53	\$31.46	\$5.93
Pr. William			
Wastewater	\$29.09	\$35.07	\$5.98
Pr. William Waste			
Unmetered	\$31.00	\$39.00	\$8.00

Because Virginia-American is not proposing any increase to the fixed charge component of the bill, the Company states there will be zero rate impact for customers using water at or below 2,000 gallons per month. Additional information on estimated rate and bill impacts, including for commercial and industrial customers, may be found in the Direct Testimony of Charles B. Rea filed as part of the Application.

Virginia-American seeks approval of a Revenue Stability
Mechanism ("RSM"), which is an automatic rate adjustment clause that
would decouple Virginia-American's recovery of fixed costs from
volumetric sales. The Company asserts that the RSM is designed to align
the Company's revenues with the level the Commission uses to set rates in

this case going forward and that it would address the unpredictable changes in volume of water sold due to factors beyond the Company's control.

Additionally, the Company proposes an automatic rate adjustment clause to reconcile actual incurred uncollectible expense to the base level established in this case, with any variance recovered from, or credited to, customers over a subsequent period. Virginia-American asserts that this will protect both customers and the Company from expected fluctuations and uncertainty with regard to its uncollectibles expense.

Interested persons are encouraged to review the Application and supporting documents for the details of these and other proposals.

TAKE NOTICE that the Commission may apportion revenues among customer classes and/or design rates in a manner differing from that shown in the Application and supporting documents and thus may adopt rates that differ from those appearing in the Company's Application and supporting documents.

The Commission entered an Order for Notice and Hearing that, among other things, scheduled public hearings on Virginia-American's Application. On September 23, 2022, at 10 a.m., the Commission will hold a telephonic hearing, with no witness present in the Commission's courtroom, for the purpose of receiving the testimony of public witnesses. On or before September 19, 2022, any person desiring to offer testimony as a public witness shall provide to the Commission (a) your name, and (b) the telephone number that you wish the Commission to call during the hearing to receive your testimony. This information may be provided to the Commission in three ways: (i) by filling out a form on the Commission's website at scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting; (ii) by completing and emailing the PDF version of this form to SCCInfo@scc.virginia.gov; or (iii) by calling (804) 371-9141. This public witness hearing will be webcast at scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting.

On September 27, 2022, at 10 a.m., either in the Commission's second floor courtroom located in the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, or by electronic means, a hearing will be convened to receive testimony and evidence from the Company, any respondents, and the Commission's Staff. Further details on this hearing will be provided by subsequent Commission Order or Hearing Examiner's Ruling.

The Commission has taken judicial notice of the ongoing public health issues related to the spread of the coronavirus, or COVID-19. In accordance therewith, all pleadings, briefs, or other documents required to be served in this matter should be submitted electronically to the extent authorized by 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice. Confidential and Extraordinarily Sensitive Information shall not be submitted electronically and should comply with 5 VAC 5-20-170, *Confidential information*, of the Rules of Practice. Any person seeking to hand deliver and physically file or submit any pleading or other document shall contact the Clerk's Office Document Control Center at (804) 371-9838 to arrange the delivery.

Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-140, *Filing and service*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice, the Commission has directed that service on parties and the Commission's Staff in this matter shall be accomplished by electronic means. Please refer to the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing for further instructions concerning Confidential or Extraordinarily Sensitive Information.

An electronic copy of the Company's Application may be obtained by submitting a written request to counsel for the Company, Timothy E. Biller, Esquire, Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP, 951 East Byrd Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, or tbiller@hunton.com.

On or before September 20, 2022, any interested person may submit comments on the Application by following the instructions found on the Commission's website: sec.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments. Those unable, as a practical matter, to submit comments electronically may file such comments by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118. All comments shall refer to Case No. PUR-2021-00255.

On or before April 19, 2022, any person or entity wishing to participate as a respondent in this proceeding may do so by filing a notice of participation with the Clerk of the Commission at: scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling/. Those unable, as a practical matter, to file a notice of participation electronically may file such notice by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. Such notice of participation shall include the email addresses of such parties or their counsel. The respondent simultaneously shall serve a copy of the notice of participation on counsel to the Company. Pursuant to Rule 5 VAC 5-20-80 B,

Participation as a respondent, of the Commission's Rules of Practice, any notice of participation shall set forth: (i) a precise statement of the interest of the respondent; (ii) a statement of the specific action sought to the extent then known; and (iii) the factual and legal basis for the action. Any organization, corporation, or government body participating as a respondent must be represented by counsel as required by Rule 5 VAC 5-20-30, Counsel, of the Rules of Practice. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2021-00255.

On or before June 28, 2022, each respondent may file with the Clerk of the Commission, at scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling, any testimony and exhibits by which the respondent expects to establish its case. Any respondent unable, as a practical matter, to file testimony and exhibits electronically may file such by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. Each witness's testimony shall include a summary not to exceed one page. All testimony and exhibits shall be served on the Company, Staff, and all other respondents. In all filings, respondents shall comply with the Commission's Rules of Practice, as modified herein, including, but not limited to: 5 VAC 5-20-140, Filing and service; and 5 VAC 5-20-240, Prepared testimony and exhibits. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2021-00255.

Any documents filed in paper form with the Office of the Clerk of the Commission in this docket may use both sides of the paper. In all other respects, except as modified by the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing, all filings shall comply fully with the requirements of 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice.

The Company's Application, the Commission's Rules of Practice and the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing may be viewed at: scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information.

VIRGINIA-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY

(9) On or before February 25, 2022, the Company shall serve a copy of this Order for Notice and Hearing on the following officials, to the extent the position exists, in each county, city, and town in which the Company provides service in the Commonwealth of Virginia: the chairman of the board of supervisors of each county; the mayor or manager (or equivalent official) of every city and town; and the county, city, or town attorney. Service shall be made electronically where possible; if electronic service is not possible, service shall be made by either

personal delivery or first class mail to the customary place of business or residence of the person served.

- (10) On or before March 18, 2022, the Company shall file proof of the notice and service required by Ordering Paragraphs (8) and (9), including the name, title, address, and electronic mail address (if applicable) of each official served, with the Clerk of the Commission at scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling/.
- (11) On or before September 20, 2022, any interested person may submit written comments on the Application by following the instructions found on the Commission's website: scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments. Those unable, as a practical matter, to submit comments electronically may file such comments by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118. All comments shall refer to Case No. PUR-2021-00255.
- (12) On or before April 19, 2022, any person or entity wishing to participate as a respondent in this proceeding may do so by filing a notice of participation at scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling. Those unable, as a practical matter, to file a notice of participation electronically may file such notice by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed in Ordering Paragraph (11). Such notice of participation shall include the email addresses of such parties or their counsel, if available. The respondent simultaneously shall serve a copy of the notice of participation on counsel to the Company. Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-80 B,

 Participation as a respondent, of the Rules of Practice, any notice of participation shall set forth:

 (i) a precise statement of the interest of the respondent; (ii) a statement of the specific action sought to the extent then known; and (iii) the factual and legal basis for the action. Any organization, corporation, or government body participating as a respondent must be represented

by counsel as required by 5 VAC 5-20-30, *Counsel*, of the Rules of Practice. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2021-00255.

- (13) Within three (3) business days of receipt of a notice of participation as a respondent, the Company shall serve a copy of the public version of its Application on the respondent.
- (14) On or before June 28, 2022, each respondent may file with the Clerk of the Commission, at scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling, any testimony and exhibits by which the respondent expects to establish its case. Any respondent unable, as a practical matter, to file testimony and exhibits electronically may file such by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed in Ordering Paragraph (11). Each witness's testimony shall include a summary not to exceed one page. All testimony and exhibits shall be served on the Company, Staff, and all other respondents. In all filings, respondents shall comply with the Commission's Rules of Practice, as modified herein, including, but not limited to: 5 VAC 5-20-140, Filing and service, and 5 VAC 5-20-240, Prepared testimony and exhibits. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2021-00255.
- (15) On or before August 16, 2022, the Staff shall investigate the Application and file with the Clerk of the Commission its testimony and exhibits concerning the Application, and each Staff witness's testimony shall include a summary not to exceed one page. A copy thereof shall be served on counsel to the Company and all respondents.
- (16) On or before September 6, 2022, the Company shall file with the Clerk of the Commission any rebuttal testimony and exhibits that it expects to offer, and each rebuttal witness's testimony shall include a summary not to exceed one page. The Company shall serve a copy of its rebuttal testimony and exhibits on the Staff and all respondents.
- (17) Any documents filed in paper form with the Office of the Clerk of the Commission in this docket may use both sides of the paper. In all other respects, except as modified herein, all

filings shall comply fully with the requirements of 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*, of the Rules of Practice.

(18) The Commission's Rule of Practice 5 VAC 5-20-260, *Interrogatories to parties or requests for production of documents and things*, shall be modified for this proceeding as follows: responses and objections to written interrogatories and requests for production of documents shall be served within seven (7) calendar days after receipt of the same. In addition to the service requirements of 5 VAC 5-20-260 of the Rules of Practice, on the day that copies are filed with the Clerk of the Commission, a copy of the interrogatory or request for production shall be served electronically on the party to whom the interrogatory or request for production is directed or the assigned Staff attorney, if the interrogatory or request for production is directed to the Staff.²⁴ Except as modified herein, discovery shall be in accordance with Part IV of the Rules of Practice, 5 VAC 5-20-240 *et seq*.

(19) This matter is continued.

A COPY hereof shall be sent electronically by the Clerk of the Commission to all persons on the official Service List in this matter. The Service List is available from the Clerk of the Commission.

²⁴ The assigned Staff attorney is identified on the Commission's website, <u>scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information</u>, by clicking "Docket Search," then clicking "Search by Case Information," and entering the case number, PUR-2021-00255, in the appropriate box.